

In the Claims. This Listing of Claims replaces all prior versions and listings of Claims in the application.

- 1/20/04 X 1. ^{Currently} (Presently Amended) A method for building a consumable staple blank refill, the method comprising the steps of:
- 3 fabricating a plurality of arrays of ~~consumable parts~~ staple wires
 - 4 detachably connected along a first direction;
 - 5 stacking said plurality of said fabricated arrays of ~~parts~~ staple wires along
 - 6 a second direction; and
 - 7 providing an adhesive bond between adjacent ones of said stacked
 - 8 plurality of arrays.

- 1/20/04 X 2. ^{Currently} (Presently Amended) The method of claim 1 wherein said fabricating step comprises the step of:
- 3 providing a perforated connection between said ~~consumable parts~~ staple
 - 4 wires.

- 1 3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein said step of providing
- 2 an adhesive bond comprises the step of:
- 3 adhering adjacent ones of said plurality of arrays using solid rub-on glue.

- 1 4. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
- 2 selecting a strength of said adhesive bond so as to allow separation of an
- 3 array from an adjacent array only upon experiencing an application of force from
- 4 an array advancement mechanism.

- 1/20/04 X 5. ^{Currently} (Presently Amended) The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of:
- 3 omitting an attachment to said adhered plurality of arrays of any material
 - 4 requiring removal prior to consumption of said ~~consumable parts~~ staple wires in a
 - 5 host device.

Currently
1 6. (Presently Amended) The method of claim 1 further
2 comprising the step of:
3 destroying the adhesive bond during consumption of the consumable parts
4 staple wires.
5

1 7. (Cancelled) A staple refill, the refill comprising:
2 a plurality of staple wire layers stacked along a direction normal to a plane
3 of said layers; and
4 an adhesive layer disposed in between each set of adjacent surfaces of
5 said stacked staple wire layers.

1 8. (Cancelled) The staple refill of claim 7 wherein said adhesive is
2 solid adhesive.

1 9. (Cancelled) The staple refill of claim 7 wherein said layers are
2 stacked such that all staple wires of said staple wire layers are aligned.

1 10. (Cancelled) The staple refill of claim 7 wherein said adhesive
2 layers occupy substantially all of a surface area of said each set of adjacent
3 surfaces.

1 11. (Cancelled) The staple refill of claim 7 wherein said adhesive
2 layers occupy substantially less than all of a surface area of said each set of said
3 adjacent surfaces.

1 12. (Cancelled) The staple refill of claim 7 wherein said adhesive layer
2 has a bonding force such as to allow separation of a staple wire layer from a
3 remainder of said refill only upon experiencing an application of force from an
4 array advancement mechanism.

1 13. (Cancelled) A system for fully consuming a staple refill, the system
2 comprising:
3 means for stacking a plurality of staple wire plates; and

4 means for gluing together each set of adjacent staple wire plate surfaces
5 of said stacked plates.

1 14. (Cancelled) The system of claim 13 further comprising:
2 means for receiving said glued stacked plates into a cartridge;
3 means for separating one of said glued stacked plates from a remainder of
4 said glued stacked plates;
5 means for removing a staple from said separated glued stacked plate; and
6 means for expelling said removed staple and any glue in contact with said
7 removed staple from said cartridge.

1 15. (Cancelled) The system of claim 13 wherein said means for
2 stacking comprises:
3 means for stacking vertically.

1 16. (Cancelled) The system of claim 13 wherein said means for
2 stacking comprises:
3 means for stacking said plates such that all staple wires of said stacked
4 staple wire plates are aligned.

1 17. (Cancelled) The system of claim 13 wherein said means for gluing
2 comprises:
3 means for applying glue to substantially all of a surface area of at least
4 one of said sets of adjacent surfaces.

1 18. (Cancelled) The system of claim 13 wherein said means for gluing
2 comprises:
3 means for applying glue to substantially less than all of a surface area of at
4 least one of said sets of adjacent surfaces.